



10-31-02 1636

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: *DE JONG et al.*  
Serial No.: 10/086,745  
Filed: February 28, 2002  
Confirmation No.: 8781  
For: *METHODS FOR DELIVERING  
NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES  
INTO CELLS AND ASSESSMENT  
THEREOF*  
Art Unit: 1636  
Examiner: Unassigned

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Date of Deposit October 28, 2002  
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Arlington, VA 22202, on this date.

10/28/2002  
Date

Michael Lough

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment for filing in connection with the above-identified application.

[ X ] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 in connection with this paper or with this application during its entire pendency to Deposit Account No. 50-1213. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
HELLER, EHRMAN, WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:

Stephanie L. Seidman  
Registration No. 33,779

Attorney Docket No. 24601-416C.  
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*Michael Lough*  
Michael Lough

#12/a  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application entry of the following amendment is respectfully requested.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked up copy of the amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

**Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 23-29, with the following:**

*C*  
The delivery methods provided herein may also be used to deliver large nucleic acid molecules to a target cell *in vitro*, which is then introduced into an animal subject, in particular human subjects, such as may be done, for example, in a method of *ex vivo* gene therapy. Thus, also provided herein are methods of *in vivo* and *ex vivo* gene therapy using the methods for delivering large nucleic acid molecules into cells as provided herein.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 15, through page 9, line 4, with the following:**

*AO*  
In particular embodiments, the methods of monitoring delivery and expression of a nucleic acid molecule include the steps of: introducing labelled nucleic acid molecules that encode a reporter gene into cells;